Amendment No. 1 to SB3076

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Henry Signature of Sponsor

AMEND Senate Bill No. 3076

House Bill No. 3004*

In the amendatory language of Section 1 by adding the following as a new section to Title 33, Chapter 3, Part 1:

Section 33-3-126

- (a) A service recipient may not be precluded or discouraged from exercising his
 or her rights to religious expression under Article I, Section 3 of the Tennessee
 Constitution, or any similar provision in the United States Constitution by the department
 or its contract agencies in its programs, facilities and its community based system of
 services and supports.
- (b) The department in its programs, facilities and the community based system of services and supports shall afford all service recipients reasonable opportunities to participate in community activities, including but not limited to religious activities.
- (c) The department shall include a provision in all contracts entered into or amended on or after July 1, 2000 with agencies providing services and supports to service recipients under this title that requires such agencies shall not preclude or discourage service recipients from exercising rights provided in this section.
- (d) A service recipient has the right to meet with or contact a spiritual advisor or religious community at all reasonable times.
- (e) In exercising such religious expression a service recipient may not infringe on the rights of other persons or require personnel, services or facilities not readily or reasonably available to the department or its contract agencies, including but not limited to transportation. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as requiring the department or its contract agencies to provide transportation services.

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(f) The department is authorized to promulgate rules, in accordance with the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 5, and policies to implement the provisions of this section.